

IN THE CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A longitudinally extending intrafocal plate for securing bone fractures, said intrafocal plate comprising an elongated intrafocal plate element having a flat surface at one end thereof defining a top and a bottom and a leading end and a trailing end and sized to overlay a fracture site, and having a longitudinally extending intrafocal resilient body element connected at one end thereof adjacent to but spaced apart from the trailing end of the flat surface so as to define an overhanging heel between the location at which the resilient body element connects to the flat surface and the trailing end of the flat surface wherein said heel serves to help stabilize the fracture site, said body element being formed so as to extend generally in the lengthwise direction of the flat surface and wherein the other end of the body element defines a pin element.
2. (Original) An intrafocal plate according to claim 1, wherein a shoulder is defined between the flat surface and the one end of the body element connected thereto.
3. (Original) An intrafocal plate according to claim 1, wherein the longitudinally extending resilient body element depends downwardly and outwardly from the bottom of the flat surface.
4. (Original) An intrafocal plate according to claim 1, wherein the flat surface defines one or more apertures therein.

5. (Currently Amended) An intrafocal plate for securing bone fractures, said intrafocal plate comprising an elongated intrafocal plate element having a flat surface at one end thereof defining a top and a bottom and a leading end and a trailing end and sized to overlay a fracture site, and having a longitudinally extending intrafocal resilient body element connected at one end thereof adjacent to but spaced apart from the trailing end of the flat surface so as to define an overhanging heel between the location at which the resilient body element connects to the flat surface and the trailing end of the flat surface wherein said heel serves to help stabilize the fracture site, and the other end of the body element defining a pin, said intrafocal plate including one or more screws for insertion through the one or more apertures defined in the flat surface of the plate element.

6. (Currently Amended) A longitudinally extending intrafocal plate for securing metaphyseal bone fractures, said intrafocal plate comprising an elongated intrafocal plate element having a flat surface at one end thereof with one or more apertures therein and defining a top and a bottom and a leading end and a trailing end and sized to overlay a fracture site, and having a longitudinally extending intrafocal resilient body element depending from the trailing end of the flat surface so that the body element forms an acute angle with the flat surface and extends generally in the lengthwise direction of the flat surface, the body element being connected adjacent to but spaced apart from the trailing end of the flat surface so as to define an overhanging heel between the location at which the resilient body element connects to the flat surface and the trailing end of the

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flat surface wherein said heel serves to help stabilize the fracture site, the body element defining a shoulder at one end at the juncture of the body element and the flat surface and a pin at the other end of the body element.